

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 SCS-03 SCA-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2586

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PORG, PINS, ASEC, SOPN, SHUM, PE, CASC

SUBJECT: IPS, MISSIONARIES, AND CONSULAR ACCESS

REF: STATE 273687, STATE 269864

1. AMBASSADOR AND DCM MET NOVEMBER 8 WITH EDUARDO VALDEZ, HEAD OF PLANNING OFFICE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS. AMBASSADOR HAD REQUESTED APPOINTMENT WITH THE SEC GEN OF FONOFF WHO AT LAST MINUTE WAS NOT AVAILABLE AND ASKED VALDEZ TO SUBSTITUTE FOR HIM.

2. IPS OFFICE. AMBASSADOR TOOK OCCASION OF CALL TO RAISE MATTER OF IPS OFFICE AS REQUESTED STATE 273687, WHICH HAD JUST BEEN RECEIVED. VALDEZ UNDERSTOOD AMBASSADOR'S EXPLANATION THAT USG IS NOT TRYING TO INFLUENCE FINAL DECISION TO BE TAKEN IN THIS CASE, BUT IT DOES HOPE THAT GOP INVESTIGATION AND RESOLUTION OF THE CASE WILL BE PROMPT. VALDEZ PROMISED TO CONVEY THIS MESSAGE TO APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES.

3. MISSIONARIES. AMBASSADOR AGAIN RAISED THE QUESTION OF VISAS FOR AMERICAN MISSIONARIES IN PERU. VALDEZ STATED THAT IT WAS HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT MOST OF THE PENDING CASES HAVE NOW BEEN DEALT WITH (HE IMPLIED FAVORABLY) AND THAT HE WILL LOOK INTO THE REMAINING ONES. (EMBASSY HAS RECENTLY HEARD SIMILARLY ENCOURAGING WORDS FROM LOCAL U.S. MISSIONARY REPRESENTATIVES, NOT INCLUDING THE MORMONS. WE WILL CON-

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TINUE TO REPORT ON DEVELOPMENTS.) THE AMBASSADOR EMPHASIZED AGAIN THAT THE EMBASSY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A CLEAR STATEMENT

OF ANY CHANGE IN GOP POLICY CONCERNING FOREIGN MISSIONARIES
SO THAT WE CAN KEEP INTERESTED PARTIES INFORMED.

4. CONSULAR ACCESS. AMBASSADOR STRESSED TO VALDEZ THE
IMPORTANCE OF PROMPT CONSULAR NOTICE AND CONSULAR ACCESS IN
ALL CASES INVOLVING AMERICAN CITIZENS ARRESTED IN PERU. HE
SPECIFICALLY CITED THE RECENT NAGELSCHMIDT AND SMALL CASES
IN WHICH EMBASSY WAS NOT INFORMED BY GOP. AMBASSADOR EMPHA-
SIZED THAT FAILURE TO PROVIDE PROMPT NOTICE AND TO PERMIT
PROMPT CONSULAR ACCESS TO PRISONERS EFFECTIVELY PRECLUDES
CONSULAR OFFICERS FROM DISCHARGING THEIR DUTIES ON BEHALF
OF AMERICAN CITIZENS, AND MAY ALSO RAISE UNWARRANTED SUSPICIONS
AND PERCEPTIONS IN THE U.S. UNFAVORABLE TO PERU. VALDEZ
RESPONDED THAT AS A FORMER CONSULAR OFFICER HIMSELF HE FULLY
APPRECIATES THE VALIDITY OF THESE POINTS, AND HE PROMISED TO
CONVEY THEM TO OTHER GOP AUTHORITIES AND SEEK APPROPRIATE
MECHANISMS (DESPITE CURRENT SUSPENSION OF CIVIL GUARANTEES) TO
MEET EMBASSY'S NEEDS. IN THIS REGARD AMBASSADOR SPOKE ALONG
THESE SAME LINES TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL SUPERIOR OF THE
GUARDIA CIVIL ON OCTOBER 30, AND WILL MEET IN THE NEAR
FUTURE WITH THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE PIP AND THE MINISTER
OF INTERIOR.
DEAN

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